

Amusements and Meetings Co-Night.

BOOTH'S THEATRE.—1:30 and 8: "Sardanapalus."
 FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.—1:30 and 8: "Money."
 GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—2 and 8: "La Fille de Madame Aurore."
 ELGIN GARDEN.—1:30 and 8: "Baba."
 OLYMPIC THEATRE.—2 and 8: Variety Performance.
 PARK THEATRE.—2 and 8: "Cloude."
 RAN FLECKENSTEIN.—2 and 8: "The Two Men of Strassburg."
 TWENTY-THIRD STREET OPERA HOUSE.—Kelly & Leon's Minstrels.
 UNION SQUARE THEATRE.—1:30 and 8: "Two Men of Strassburg."
 WALLACK'S THEATRE.—1:30 and 8: "Mighty Dollar."

AMERICAN INSTITUTE.—Day and Evening: Annual Fair.
 TREMONT ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Sociable.
 GILMORE'S GARDEN.—Concert and Horticultural Exhibition.
 MURRAY'S CIRCUS.

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Business Notices.

DYEING AND CLEANING.—Take your dyeing
 and cleaning to the NEW YORK DYEING and FINISHING CO.,
 99 Broadway, between Broadway and 100th street, N. Y.
 Y., and 100 and 105th streets, Brooklyn. Established 1870.
 Families from the country wishing boots,
 shoes, and gaiters, good articles, moderate price, patronize
 the NEW YORK DYEING and FINISHING CO., 99 Broadway,
 between Broadway and 100th street, N. Y. Y., and 100 and 105th
 streets, Brooklyn.
 Rupture cured by Dr. MARSH'S treatment; 40
 years' experience; 5 Vesey-st., Astor House. No Up-town
 branch.
 \$25,000 ADDITIONAL CAPITAL wanted to fill
 existing contracts for decorated cases, factory of
 THE CENTRAL EXHIBITION OFFICE OF THE
 TRIBUNE is at the Tribune Building, Belmont Ave.,
 between Broadway and 100th street, N. Y. Y., and 100 and 105th
 streets, Brooklyn. Subscriptions and advertisements received at regular
 rates. The TRIBUNE Building, Belmont Ave., between Broadway and 100th
 street, N. Y. Y., and 100 and 105th streets, Brooklyn.
 WILSON'S COD LIVER OIL AND LIME.—Persons
 who have been taking Cod Liver Oil will be pleased to
 learn that Dr. WILSON has succeeded in combining the pure oil of
 cod with lime in such a manner that it is pleasant to the taste, and its
 effects in lung disease, and in all the diseases of the chest, are
 more rapid and more permanent than those of any other preparation.
 Clear off for a long time without marked effect, have been
 cured by using this preparation. See facts and get the
 genuine. Manufactured only by A. B. WILSON, Chemist, Boston.
 Sold by all druggists.

DAILY TRIBUNE. Mail Subscribers, \$10 per annum.
 WEEKLY TRIBUNE. Mail Subscribers, \$3 per annum.
 WEEKLY TRIBUNE. Mail Subscribers, \$2 per annum.
 Terms, cash in advance.

Persons wishing to obtain THE TRIBUNE in any of the
 States, boats, or by mail, will be pleased to send a
 check or a favor by informing this office of the circumstances.

BRANCH OFFICES OF THE TRIBUNE.
 NEW-YORK.—No. 1,238 Broadway, corner Thirty-
 first-st.; No. 308 West Twenty-third-st., corner
 Eighth-ave.; No. 769 Third-ave., corner Forty-
 seventh-st.; No. 220 West Forty-seventh-st.;
 PHILADELPHIA.—No. 713 Chestnut-ave.
 WASHINGTON.—No. 1335 F-st.
 LONDON.—No. 13 Pall Mall, S. W.
 PARIS.—No. 8 Rue de la Chaussee d'Antin.
 Advertisements and subscriptions are received at
 publisher's rates, and single copies of THE TRIBUNE
 may always be obtained at all the above offices.

New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1876.

TRIPLE SHEET.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—A Republican manifesto has been cir-
 culating in Spain. The plague has attacked
 the Turkish troops before Alexatz. Large
 Liberal gains were made in Buckinghamshire, and
 the Conservative candidate was elected. The
 revolt in Canca, Colombia, continues.

DOMESTIC.—The treaty for the Black Hills has
 been signed by a portion of the Sioux. A rail-
 road accident on the Pan Handle route resulted in
 the killing of four people and wounding of about
 30. Nettleship, Hayes and Mr. Alexander tested
 in the Babcock trial yesterday.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—The Creedmore Fall meet-
 ing was closed with the Wimbledon Cup contest,
 which was won by Isaac L. Allen. In the evening
 the prizes were presented. The extensive
 preparations for the Hell Gate explosion on Sunday
 afternoon will be completed to-day. Senator
 Bayard and Henry Watterson addressed a Demo-
 cratic mass meeting at Cooper Union. Receiver
 Best made a statement showing that the Mechanics'
 and Traders' Savings Institution had been very
 badly mismanaged by the president and trustees.
 Gold, 107½, 110, 110. Gold value of the
 legal-tender dollar at the close, 90½ cents. Stocks
 dull and generally lower.

THE WEATHER.—THE TRIBUNE'S local observa-
 tions indicate the probability of clouds and rain.
 In this city yesterday the day was cool and
 threatening, with misty precipitation; thermometer,
 60°, 61°, 58°.

THE TRIBUNE EXTRA No. 35 (THE TRIBUNE
 Guide to the Exhibition) is for sale on all
 the principal trains arriving at and departing
 from New-York and Philadelphia, and the re-
 port to this office of any failure to obtain it from
 the train newsboys will be regarded as a favor.
 It will be sent to any address, postage, or ex-
 cept of the price, 10 cents in strict form, or 25
 cents in pamphlet.

In Barbadoes Gov. Hennessey has shown good
 sense as well as generosity by pardoning an
 angry editor who was sentenced to two
 months' imprisonment with hard labor, for
 throwing some copies of his paper at him.
 Political acts of this kind are needed to obliterate
 the "color line" in the disturbed island
 which the Governor rules.

Mr. Zebulon B. Vance deprecates the bloody
 shirt, save when it is of his own making.
 His reminder that all the "brave Southern
 heroes who dipped their hands in Union
 blood are for Reform and Tilden," was ad-
 dressed to men of the South, but it will stir
 the memories of the North as well. It will
 bring a good gist of votes to the Republican
 party.

Surely the savings bank system is far from
 perfect or its administration is far from vigi-
 lant, when trustees can do the things the
 trustees of the Mechanics' and Traders' Sav-
 ings Bank seem to have been doing with-
 out let or hindrance. The record of their
 transactions would do credit to the best in-

genuity of the Tammany Ring. For such deeds
 as these there ought to be some fitting reward.

Prof. Huxley presented last night the Demo-
 strative Evidence of Evolution, in the closing
 lecture of his course in this city. The ge-
 nology of the horse, traced in a series of strata
 back to the four-toed horses of the eocene
 formation, furnished the material for the argu-
 ment. The statement of Prof. Huxley that evo-
 lution now rests on as strong a basis as the Co-
 pernicen theory of the solar system, should
 have his opponents that they have no trifling
 task.

Gen. Newton's determination to explode the
 Hell Gate mine on Sunday continues to evoke
 protest, chiefly from the religious classes of
 the community, which finds its best expression
 in the letter of Wm. E. Dodge. Gen. New-
 ton, however, remains firm in his resolve,
 taking the ground that the explosion must not
 be delayed an hour longer than is absolutely
 necessary, and that the high water fixes the
 hour beyond possible change. All precautions
 must, therefore, accommodate themselves to
 this decision, which seems unalterable.

A letter from Indiana, printed on another
 page, gives some account of the strength and
 spirit of the Greenback party, in which Re-
 publicans find their only real danger in that
 State. Through their failure to take the
 proper stand against it at the proper time, it
 has grown, largely by accessions from the Re-
 publican ranks, to serious proportions. There
 is little else that is serious about it. A more
 miscellaneous collection of monomanias prob-
 ably never gathered together before in support
 of two more incongruous candidates. It is to
 be hoped that the fears of their political influ-
 ence are exaggerated.

The treaty proposed to the Black Hills tribes
 has been accepted without modification, and
 the work of signing has already begun with
 all the usual accompaniment of strange
 speeches and hungry stipulations of all kinds.
 The treaty requires them to abandon the
 western section of their reservation, which in-
 cludes the Black Hills, and contemplates their
 transfer to Indian Territory, if they are will-
 ing to go. It is to be hoped that the young
 chief with the long name may not have occa-
 sion to remark of this treaty also that "the
 promises made by the Great Father have
 not been carried out."

The last odds and ends of incident at the
 close of the Wagner performances are gathered
 together in an interesting letter from Bay-
 reuth, given elsewhere. Music-lovers every-
 where will be most interested in the prospect
 that not only portions, and in some cases the
 whole, of this great musical drama will be
 given in various European cities during the
 coming year, but that the entire festival may
 be repeated next year in Wagner's own theater
 and under his own supervision. The comple-
 tion of his theater, with all its apparatus,
 makes it possible to reduce expenses and
 prices to one-third of this year's figures, and
 such slight defects as were observed in the
 mechanics of the recent performances could
 be then avoided. If their repetition depends
 upon popular favor, the completeness of Wag-
 ner's victory over hostile prejudices would seem
 to insure him an opportunity of repeating it.

American business men are prompt to act on
 hints, and in several departments of trade they
 are already taking advantage of those given
 them by the Centennial Exhibition. This is
 notably the case with the paper manufac-
 turers. The falling off in the imports of paper
 does not seem to have awakened them to the
 fact of the superiority of American papers,
 until a comparison of exhibits was made at
 Philadelphia. It is now discovered that
 American manufactures of this article rank
 with those of other nations, particularly in the
 finer varieties, a result due to competition and
 the high code of morality that prevails among
 American manufacturers. The revelation has
 already led to organized effort to develop the
 foreign trade, and obtain a footing in all the
 great markets of the world. The success
 seems to be assured by the excellence of the
 American papers and the advantages this
 country now enjoys of manufacturing cheaply.

Since the extraordinary shrinkage in the
 coal stocks, which have heretofore been re-
 garded as among the safest of investments,
 there has begun a general overhauling of all
 investment stocks. Inquiries are particularly
 directed to those which, like the New-York
 Central, make no detailed reports to their stock-
 holders. Many letters from subscribers have
 of late appealed for such an exposition of the
 affairs of the New-York Central Road as we
 have already given in the cases of the coal
 roads. The lack of definite statements by the
 company makes the task one of some difficulty,
 but we have endeavored to discharge it as fully
 and fairly as possible, and the first of a series of
 papers on the subject is presented in another col-
 umn this morning. The object of these papers
 is to give with absolute accuracy and candor
 the exact facts concerning the expenses, re-
 cepts, and condition of the company. If in
 any particular we have fallen into error, we
 shall be most happy to receive a correction
 from Mr. William H. Vanderbilt, or any other
 authorized officer of the road. No newspaper
 can afford to do anything in such a case but
 strive for the utmost accuracy, and no com-
 pany can in these times afford any less.

DEMOCRACY AND THE NATIONAL CREDIT.

Five years ago peace was restored in France,
 after the most disastrous war of modern history,
 followed by the most cruel and destructive
 civil revolution. The United States suppressed
 a rebellion with marvelous success, and for
 more than ten years has enjoyed profound
 peace. Yet France borrows money at a lower
 rate of interest than the United States; our
 4½ per cent bonds sell at par, while the French
 3 per cent sell at a price which makes the
 interest 4½ per cent. Commenting upon this
 fact, the *London Economist* observes that the
 United States is removed by distance from those
 European powers to which France is constantly
 exposed; that our Constitution is "one of the
 most stable on the face of the earth," while
 France "is always making constitutions and
 always having revolutions." Yet France can
 borrow more cheaply than the United States.
 Attempting to account for this phenomenon,
 the *Economist* offers these ingenious rather
 than satisfactory explanations, and misses the
 one which is both simple and sufficient. The
 debt of France represents a war in which the
 whole French people were united, though un-
 successful. The debt of this country repre-
 sents the cost of defeating a great body of
 people who now have a large share in the
 Government.

It is suggested by the *Economist* that Ameri-
 cans "have productive opportunities, pro-
 ductive abilities, and, so to say, productive
 courage, not only above the French, but al-

"most above every other nation," and there-
 fore they are not disposed to be content with
 the low rate of interest which satisfies French
 investors. This distinction exists, and doubtless
 may, at some future time, affect the rate at
 which the Government can borrow. But there is no evi-
 dence that it does at this time affect the rate
 at which 4½ per cent bonds are sold. More
 of those bonds have been demanded in this
 country as well as in Europe, than the Syndi-
 cate has yet taken from the Government. On
 either side of the ocean there is now a large
 unemployed capital, which cannot find safe
 employment at as much as 4½ per cent
 interest. Until the United States 4½ per cent
 cease to sell freely, here as well as in Europe,
 at the same price, it can hardly be said
 that the rate is materially affected by the
 deficiency of American demand. It is also said
 that there is "a certain suspicion in Europe,
 and especially in England, of investments in
 the United States," on account of bad State,
 municipal and railway debts. But the *Econ-
 omist* itself observes that "nothing can be
 more contrary to every kind of good judg-
 ment than to compare inferior securities with
 those of the Federal Government," and we
 do not believe that an unreasonable cause is
 as potent as a perfectly natural and reason-
 able one. The doubt as to terms of payment,
 whether in gold or silver, seems to the *Econ-
 omist* "a less considerable cause" than the
 others which it suggests, and, in view of the
 fact that the credit of this country has steady-
 ly advanced during the period in which silver
 has declined, we cannot regard that cause as
 important.

On the other hand, it is perfectly natural
 that English capitalists, whose sympathies were
 generally with the South during the rebellion,
 should attribute to the Southern people even
 more of bitterness and intensity of feeling
 than actually exist. But it would be utterly
 unnatural and unreasonable to suppose that
 those who fought for years against the Gov-
 ernment are, as a class, as zealous as those who
 defended the Union for the full payment of
 debts incurred in the suppression of rebellion.
 If everything in the power of the Government
 had been done to reconcile the defeated to
 their own overthrow, and to make them
 strongly attached to the Union; if there had
 been no inherited system of labor over-
 turned by the war; if there had been no
 prejudices of race and color aroused; if
 there had been no corrupt and oppres-
 sive Governments imposed and to some
 extent maintained by arms; if there had been
 no disgraceful corruption at Washington to
 shake the pride of citizens in their Govern-
 ment; if, in short, there had been no other
 cause for lingering discontent than the mem-
 ory of defeat in a great civil war, yet even
 then it would be utterly unreasonable to ex-
 pect that those who were defeated would be
 zealous in taxing themselves to pay the cost
 of their defeat.

Nothing can be gained by ignoring facts. A
 great political party, always ruled by the
 South, and relying now upon a solid Southern
 vote as its only chance of success, is strug-
 gling for the control of the Government. Every
 utterance of that party since the war, except-
 ing in 1872 when it said nothing of its own
 motion, has betrayed the existence of a power-
 ful tendency toward repudiation, and its pres-
 ent platform plainly demands the repeal of a
 solemn pledge of public faith. Until quite
 recently, previous elections had given reason
 to suppose that this party might succeed. It
 would be absurd to suppose that a knowl-
 edge of these facts does not influence the
 judgment of investors. The mere
 knowledge that the debt was incurred
 in the suppression of a slaveholders' rebel-
 lion would prepare any intelligent foreigner to
 believe that, in the States formerly slavehold-
 ing, there must be a strong tendency to get
 rid of the taxation necessary for the payment
 of that debt. Human nature is the same the
 world over. If the debt of France had been
 incurred in defeating secession attempted by
 the people inhabiting half of the territory of
 France, and if a powerful party embodying
 the purposes of the defeated and relying upon
 their united vote were thought likely to suc-
 ceed in gaining control of the French Govern-
 ment, the 3 per cent of that nation would not
 sell at 71. The credit of the United States is
 lower than that of France because we have
 had a rebellion and still have a Democratic
 party. Our bonds bring par only because it is
 not believed that either rebellion or Democracy
 can prevail.

RUSSIA IN SERBIA.

The way of the pacificator is hard. No
 sooner does England recede from her position
 of apparent neutrality and actual encourage-
 ment, and propose a joint mediation—no
 sooner has Turkey been brought to take the
 corresponding initiative, than Russia finds the
 opportunity for which she has been waiting,
 and asserts her influence, indirectly through
 the Serbian people, as well as directly in
 diplomatic councils. At present she holds the
 trump card. She has less to lose and more to
 gain through a continuation of the war than
 any other European Power. She fully under-
 stands, by this time, the state of feeling in
 England, and is shrewd enough to estimate
 how much additional liberty of action it offers
 to her. Driven, at the same time, by the in-
 tense excitement of her own Slavic popula-
 tion, she cannot do less than permit the mi-
 gration of thousands of her citizens into
 Serbia. Thus, with a cautious and pacific
 sovereign, with cool-headed and experienced
 statesmen, and with strong material and politi-
 cal reasons for avoiding war, she dare not
 seem particularly anxious for the preservation
 of peace.

The popular excitement in England seems to
 increase rather than abate. There has been
 nothing like it for many years. In fact, there
 is scarcely a precedent for this sudden and
 universal repudiation of a traditional policy.
 The preservation of the Turkish Empire, up
 to three months ago, was as much a part of
 the ordinary Englishman's faith as the Thirty-
 nine Articles. Now, few are bold enough to
 advocate it except under conditions of strict
 surveillance. Lord Derby may speak in his
 coolest and calmest tones, but not a throbbing
 of the indignant pulse of England is subdued.
 The Earl of Beaconsfield may endeavor to
 awaken forbearance toward his Government
 by admitting that it is not supported by the
 people, and plaintively setting forth the great
 difficulties of its task; but the sin of omission
 is not to be thus condoned. No settlement
 upon a basis of conditions, exacting less from
 Turkey than Mr. Gladstone proposes, would be
 acceptable to the English people, in their
 present temper. To this extent, therefore,
 Russia is free to go. She occupies the same
 vantage-ground, now, which belonged to En-
 gland in May last. Germany, France, and
 Austria, carefully acting in the interest of
 peace, also cannot avoid seeing that no lighter
 terms will avail.

There seems to be considerable truth in the
 account of the military position at Alexatz.

When the Turkish armies paused there, after
 the advantage gained in the great battle of
 Sept. 2, they lost their best chance of sub-
 jugating Serbia. The suspension of hostilities
 will weaken them—through exposure, inunda-
 tion of the valleys, and the difficulty of ob-
 taining supplies—as much as it will strengthen
 the Serbian armies through rest, reinforce-
 ment, and reorganization. Even though the
 truce terminate on the 25th inst., the latter
 ought to be able to hold their position, if not
 to resume the offensive. Under these circum-
 stances, the statement that Turkey has consid-
 erably modified her first demands may be
 easily credited. The Serbian army, officered
 and now largely reinforced by Russians, is
 virtually an independent Power for the time
 being. Prince Milan and his Ministry may pre-
 serve a show of authority, but they cannot re-
 ject the prospect of retrieving the national loss
 and humiliation, and hence must endure the
 action of Tchernayeff and his lieutenants. It
 is not necessary that the latter should be
 directly guided by the Russian Government;
 in any case they carry sufficient of its power
 and influence with them to present a very for-
 midable alternative to Europe unless acceptable
 conditions are forced upon Turkey.

HONEST—BUT!

Gov. Hayes has now been before the country
 as a candidate, for over three months, and thus
 far no accusation has been brought against his
 private or public character, except that he
 failed to make return to the tax assessor of a
 pianoforte which he did not own and of an
 old buggy in which it was not safe to drive.
 Compared with the magnificent millions of
 Gov. Tilden these little items of personal
 property appear somewhat insignificant, nor
 will Gov. Hayes be compelled to employ a
 sharp accountant to prove by clever ephering
 that he pays his taxes. It is something in his
 favor that so many Democratic orators begin
 the business of arguing against his election by
 admitting that he is an honest man. Thus, in
 Brooklyn last Thursday evening, Mr. Henry C.
 Murphy, at a Democratic meeting over which he
 presided, did not think it necessary entirely to
 sink the gentleman in the politician, but said:
 "I detract nothing from the high character
 and noble qualities of Gov. Hayes." It is
 creditable to the meeting that applause fol-
 lowed this frank admission, and that the
 hisses which mingled with it were not strong
 enough to mar it. Senator Bayard, who made
 the speech of the night, could find nothing,
 good or bad, to say of Gov. Hayes, and so
 paid him even a higher and more desirable
 compliment.

But Mr. Murphy shall not claim that he do
 him injustice by representing him as perfectly
 fair. Perhaps the hisses which greeted his ad-
 mission of Gov. Hayes' honesty reminded him
 of the prudence in that company of not being
 made too honest to be in fashion. Hence he
 made haste to declare that President Hayes
 with all his honesty would be "as clay in the
 hands of the potter." The general opinion
 among the Democrats seems to be that an
 honest man is of necessity a weak man, and
 that force and fraudulence of character are
 inseparable. Substantially it is taken for
 granted that a man of cleanly life and conver-
 sation, of indomitable integrity, of perfect
 truthfulness, must be lacking in strength and
 steadfastness of purpose. Mr. Chairman
 Murphy wants "a man of iron will," as if the
 honesty (which he admits) did not, in this
 world of constant temptations and of frequent
 falls, argue the possession of a will somewhat
 metallic. What folly is it to tell us in one
 breath that Gov. Hayes is honest, and in the
 next that he will suffer himself to be made
 the creature of "the creatures of the Grant"
 "Administration!" Is a man who has kept
 himself honest through his whole life, though
 subjected to every trial to which any public
 character is subjected, to become suddenly
 vile, and having heretofore kept himself
 healthy in the midst of a hundred infections,
 to succumb to the Washington malaria when
 a majority of his fellow-citizens have just
 given him the most gratifying evidence of
 their admiring confidence?

Gov. Hayes has already held several im-
 portant public offices—will somebody name
 the party which has made him a blind instru-
 ment? The faction which has used him as a tool
 the wily who have misled the managers who
 have deceived the intriguers who have used
 him? Thus far, brilliant and profound or not,
 of great talents or of small ones, he seems to
 us to have shown a sufficient ability to take
 excellent care of a reputation which is of
 itself excellent. No expert at figures is en-
 gaged in making a mathematical demonstration
 of his integrity, nor is any historian busy in
 searching newspaper files for evidence of his
 loyalty. All this may argue insipidity, ineffi-
 ciency, and in some not over-fragrant quar-
 ters absolute impotency of intellect; but we
 think that the Democratic candidate for the
 Presidency could well afford to part with his
 reputation for shrewdness, or at least a part
 of it, in exchange for Gov. Hayes' more
 honestly reputation for simple honesty—for
 something of the "high character" and for
 some of the "noble qualities" to which Mr.
 Murphy bore witness, and the mere mention
 of which irritated the Brooklyn Democrats
 into hisses.

COLLEGE SECRET SOCIETIES.

There are few questions connected with our
 educational institutions which have been de-
 bated with more acrimony and less wisdom
 than that of secret societies among college
 students. All attacks upon the organizations
 have been futile because of their misdirection.
 Shallow fanatics have confined the assault to
 the question of secrecy alone, and have thereby
 strengthened rather than injured the societies
 themselves by exaggerating and throwing an
 additional charm around what is really the
 least objectionable thing about them. The mere
 secrecy itself amounts to nothing. It consists
 of a peculiar grip of the hand, and of a motto
 or two in Greek, which not one member in a
 dozen ever cares enough about to commit to
 memory. The places of meeting are all
 known, at least in the more prominent
 colleges, and the proceedings are about as
 well known outside as in. There is just
 enough of mystery to tickle the natural boyish
 delight in such things, but not enough to
 furnish a cloak for serious harm. The real
 objections to the societies are entirely outside
 of the question of secrecy, and are due in no
 sense to its influence. They have been admir-
 ably summed up by President Robinson of
 Brown University in his annual report to the
 corporation of that college. He expressly says
 at the outset that the chief objection is not
 secrecy, and then makes these five points
 against them: First, their expensiveness, which
 at present forms one of the largest items in a
 student's bills; second, they foster a spirit of
 clamorishness, interfering with a cordial class
 feeling; third, they lead in the management
 of class affairs to habits of intrigue and to the
 practice of low arts of the politician; fourth,
 they intensify peculiarities of taste and habit

and these harden into fixed defects of char-
 acter; fifth, their annual conventions are a
 serious interruption of college work. The
 strength of these objections is at once appar-
 ent, and their force is increased by the tem-
 perate manner in which they are put.
 Of course they present only one side of the
 question. The defenders of the societies will
 doubtless be able to make out nearly or quite
 as strong a case for themselves. President
 Robinson does not make any recommendation,
 or propose any action; he merely points out
 the evil and leaves it to the corporation to
 suggest a remedy.

It is just here that the difficulty arises. The
 men who have hitherto opposed the societies
 by attacking their secrecy have declared the
 remedy to be in the open societies now orga-
 nized in many colleges, which are precisely like
 the secret bodies, except that they have no se-
 crets. But the objections which President
 Robinson makes against the former are equally
 strong against the latter. The objects of both
 are the same, and the same evils are found in
 both. The open societies are made up largely
 of students who have been unable to gain admis-
 sion to the secret orders, and who are their op-
 ponents from accident rather than from choice.
 That both kinds of organization, as at present
 constituted and conducted, are a hindrance to
 the best growth of college life will be admitted
 by all candid graduates. That they are not with-
 out some merits is also true; yet if both could
 be abolished, and the old societies, similar to
 those two which existed in Brown University
 35 and 40 years ago, or to the three which
 flourished at Yale, or to those of the same kind
 in other colleges, could be reestablished, the
 change would be of more value to the colleges
 than the endowment of a new professorship.

In his efforts to bring about a change of
 some sort, President Robinson and all other
 friends of education who are working with him
 with equal devotion and wisdom are undoubt-
 edly seeking only the best good of the student.
 Many graduates who were members of these so-
 cieties are convinced now that it would be bet-
 ter for the student if these organizations were
 abolished. They do not say this because of
 any direct harm they received, but because of
 the increased benefit they might have gained
 had the societies been out of the way. The
 graduate who devotes his life to any of the
 learned professions feels this loss most keenly.
 His deepest wish is that he could have on a
 more in his life leisure for four years of un-
 interrupted study and self-culture. Every in-
 fluence in his college life which distracted his
 mind from such work he regards as an evil
 which ought to be abolished, that his succe-
 ssors may not be hindered as he was. On the
 other hand an equal number of graduates, per-
 haps, claim that the influences of the socie-
 ties are of great value to the social as well as
 the intellectual development of the student.
 Which side is right, we shall not undertake to
 decide. The discussion is an interesting one,
 and especially pertinent now as the college
 year is just beginning.

The Teachers' Association in this city have con-
 tributed \$100 as a subscription toward the pro-
 posed fund for the erection of a pedestal for M. Bar-
 thold's colossal statue of Liberty for the harbor of
 New-York, and have requested the Editor of THE
 TRIBUNE to take charge of it until the movement
 for such subscriptions gets properly organized. It
 is hoped that the Union League, and one or two
 other bodies whose approval would carry similar
 weight, may soon see fit to move in the premises.

PERSONAL.

Mr. Belknap fades away in the West. He is
 going to California to live.

Mrs. Lynn Linton, the widely known writer
 of so much cynicism about women, is described as
 a stout and unattractive woman of housewifely appear-
 ance.

Mexico is to have a colossal statue of the late
 President Juarez, which will be erected by Sigur
 Guadalupe, the artist in San Francisco, and says the
 climate of California is as good as that of Italy.

M. Worms, a distinguished genre painter in
 the style of Vib